



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND CONSUMER SERVICES

COMMISSIONER NICOLE "NIKKI" FRIED

Thank you for your interest in obtaining Official Identification Devices (tags) for your cattle. Official tags are available from private manufacturers as well as from USDA. Private manufacturers offer several different types of Official Tags including metal tags, plastic panel tags and radio frequency identification device (RFID) tags. The USDA continues to make metal tags, known as National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) or "Brite" tags, to producers at no charge. These tags are distributed by the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry (DAI).

Producers who are interested in purchasing tags should contact their animal health product supplier. A listing of manufacturers of Official Identification devices can be viewed on the USDA website at: www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/. Specific links are:

http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT_device_ain.pdf and
http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/downloads/ADT_device_nues.pdf

All Official ID devices (tags) are assigned to a Premises Identification Number (PIN) that you provide to the supplier. The tags will be assigned to your specific premises for use on animals originating on that premises. To apply for a Premises Identification Number, producers can either print the application from the Divisions' website, www.fdacs.gov or contact our office to have a form sent to them. Producers who may have a PIN, but do not know the number, can contact our office and we will look the number up.

Producers can contact the Division of Animal Industry District Supervisor to request NUES tags. The tags must be picked up at the district office or another location within the district. District staff will provide a tag request form for the producer to fill out and sign indicating that they agree to use the tags on their cattle only. District staff will complete the tag request form, by recording the numbers of the tags assigned, and forward the form to Ocala for data entry.

Page two describes the various types of Official Identification tags that are available. Page three is a listing of the Division of Animal Industry district offices and contact information. Please contact the district office for your particular county if you chose to request NUES tags.

Thanks, in advance, for registering your premises and identifying your cattle!

Sincerely,

Diane L. Kitchen, D.V.M., Ph.D.
Division of Animal Industry

Updated 01/18/22

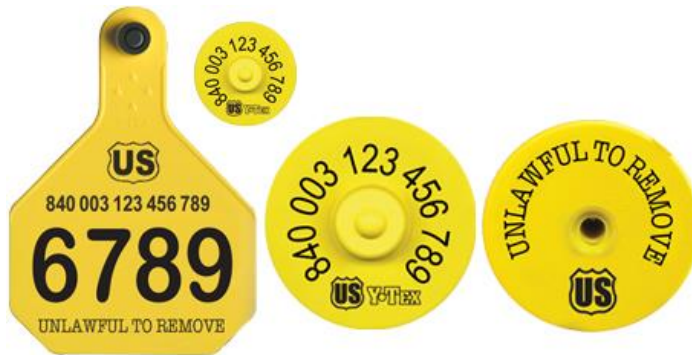
INFORMATION ABOUT OFFICIAL IDENTIFICATION DEVICES “TAGS” AND OTHER APPROVED OFFICIAL ID

The USDA rule, which became effective March 11, 2013, specifies types of identification which meet the federal requirements. This includes metal tags which are provided at no charge by USDA as well as tags which are available for purchase from tag manufacturers.

Many producers are familiar with the small metal tags known as National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags. These tags have been commonly used as official identification for cattle that have been vaccinated or tested for Brucellosis. These NUES (metal) tags are now being made available through USDA at no charge to cattle owners. The Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry can assign a supply of these tags to your premises for use on your cattle. For information about these tags you may contact the Division of Animal Industry staff listed on page three. Additional information is available at the Division of Animal Industry’s webpage: www.FDACS.gov/CattleID.



Other types of Official Identification Tags are available from tag manufacturers who have been approved by USDA. These tags include panel (visual) tags and radio frequency identification (RFID) tags. These companies are assigned “official numbers” which they then reallocate to the purchaser of the tags. Consult your local farm/ranch supplier to ask about official ID tags. The USDA website: <http://www.aphis.usda.gov/traceability/> has a listing of the types of acceptable identification which meets the federal requirements.



Breed registration brands and tattoos, which provide individual identification, may be accepted as Official Identification if the registration certificate accompanies the animal.

Official Identification Tags provided by USDA & FDACS

At the present time, National Uniform Eartagging System (NUES) tags are available through USDA at no charge to cattle owners. Note that USDA is considering moving to only accepting electronic tags as official tags so use of NUES tags would not be allowed. Currently, the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, Division of Animal Industry can assign a supply of these tags to your premises for use on your cattle. To obtain these tags, contact the District Supervisor listed below for your area. Additionally, many types of Official tags are available for purchase from your animal health products supplier.

NUES tag distribution will be direct from USDA for large shipments. Orders of less than 1,000 tags will be available from the Division of Animal Industry District Offices. Tag applicator pliers will be on loan from these offices, pending availability. Applicators can be purchased from animal health supply companies. These tags are manufactured by National Band & Tag Company (800-860-6300) and the specific applicators to fit them are Style #49S.

Division of Animal Industry District Offices

- District 1** (Bay, Calhoun, Escambia, Franklin, Gadsden, Gulf, Holmes, Jackson, Leon, Liberty, Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, Walton, Washington, and Wakulla counties)
Contact: Mr. Larry Warden; Larry.Warden@FDACS.gov
Mobile Telephone: 850-573-0299 or Office Telephone: 850-718-0459
2794 Levy Street, Suite B, Cottondale, Florida 32431
- District 2** (Baker, Bradford, Clay, Columbia, Dixie, Duval, Hamilton, Jefferson, Lafayette, Madison, Nassau, St. Johns, Suwannee, Taylor and Union counties)
Contact: Mr. Arthur Smith; Arthur.Smith@FDACS.gov
Mobile Telephone: 352-438-4703 or Office Telephone: 386-339-6074
912 Nobles Ferry Road, Live Oak, Florida 32024
- District 3** (Alachua, Citrus, Flagler, Gilchrist, Lake, Levy, Marion, Putnam, Seminole, Sumter and Volusia counties)
Contact: Mr. Robert Capote; Robert.Capote@FDACS.gov
Mobile Telephone: 352-427-2134
22712 W. Newberry Rd., Newberry, Florida 32669
- District 4** (Brevard, Hernando, Hillsborough, Indian River, Orange, Osceola, Pasco, Pinellas and Polk counties)
Contact: Ms. Amie Facente; Amie.Facente@FDACS.gov
Mobile Telephone: 863-993-5459 or Office Telephone: 863-578-1863
170 Century Boulevard, Bartow, Florida 33830
- District 5** (Charlotte, Collier, DeSoto, Hardee, Hendry, Lee, Manatee and Sarasota counties)
Contact: Ms. Abby Smith; Abby.Smith@FDACS.gov
Mobile Telephone: 863-993-5458 or Office Telephone: 863-993-4732
2150 N.E. Roan Street, Suite 200, Arcadia, Florida 34266
- District 6** (Broward, Dade, Glades, Highlands, Martin, Monroe, Okeechobee, Palm Beach and St. Lucie and counties)
Contact: Ms. Amy Cepero; Amy.Cepero@FDACS.gov
Mobile Telephone: 786-229-4639 or Office Telephone: 863-462-5171
123 N.W. 36th Street, Ste 123, Okeechobee, Florida 34972